

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. 1. A cutting installation for a fabric web comprising an unwinding unit, a downstream dancer unit serving as a buffer, and a downstream cutting frame with a cutting unit disposed thereon, wherein at least two gripper beams extending parallel to the cutting unit and guided along a lateral rail arrangement are displaceable across the longitudinal extension of the cutting frame, and each gripper beam on one side is carried by a first support tower which is displaceable along the rails, and on its opposite end is provided with a telescopically extendable extension piece, which can be docked with a second support tower arranged on the opposite side and traveling along, and wherein the support towers are adapted for adjusting the height of the respectively carried gripper beam, such that each gripper beam, as it moves along the cutting frame, can travel over the other gripper beam.
1. 2. The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1, wherein one gripper beam when in a lowered position, rests with its end opposite the first support tower carrying it on a slide that travels along.
1. 3. The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1 wherein the first and second support towers and slides associated with each of the two gripper beams are arranged laterally reversed to each other on different sides of the cutting frame.
1. 4. The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1, wherein three rails respectively, are arranged on the two sides of the cutting frame to receive, respectively, a first support tower, a second support tower and a slide.

1       5.     The cutting installation as claimed in claim 4, wherein the slides are each  
2     displaceable on the innermost rails.

1       6.     The cutting installation as claimed in claim 5, wherein the first support towers,  
2     each carrying the associated gripper beam, are displaceable on the center rails.

1       7.     The cutting installation as claimed in claim 6, wherein the second support towers,  
2     each adapted to dock with the extension piece of the gripper beams, are displaceable on  
3     the outermost rails.

1       8.     The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second  
2     support towers each have a lifting device for moving the gripper beam carried by them  
3     between a lowered position and a raised position.

1       9.     The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1, wherein the second support towers  
2     and/or the ends of the extendable extension pieces have a docking device for a detachable  
3     connection of the support towers and the extension pieces .

1       10.    The cutting installation as claimed in claim 9, wherein the respective second  
2     support tower has a pin protruding in axial direction of the gripper beam and serving as  
3     a docking device, onto which can be driven the respective extension piece of the gripper  
4     beam, which is provided with a bore at its end.

1       11.    The cutting installation as claimed in claim 1 further including a number of fixed  
2     first deflection rollers and a number of second deflection rollers supported on a  
3     displaceably arranged slide opposite the fixed deflection rollers, wherein the movable  
4     slide with the second deflection rollers can be displaced by means of a motor, and a  
5     controlled input tension of the fabric web running across the first and the second  
6     deflection rollers can be adjusted.